







## Rudy Giuliani concedes he made public comments falsely

Continued from Front

Though Giuliani is not disputing that the statements were false, he does not concede that they caused any damage to Freeman or Moss. That distinction is important because plaintiffs in a defamation case must prove not only that a statement made about them was false but that it also resulted in actual damage.

Moss told the U.S. House committee investigating the Capitol riot that her life was shattered by the false accusations. She said she received hateful and racist messages, some "wishing death upon me. Telling me that I'll be in jail with my mother. And saying things like, 'Be glad it's 2020 and not 1920.'" Freeman said in her testimony: "There is nowhere I feel safe."

Giuliani's statement was attached to a filing arguing that he did not fail to produce evidence in the case and should not be sanctioned as Freeman and Moss had requested.

"While Giuliani does not admit to Plaintiffs' allegations, he — for purposes of this litigation only — does not contest the factual allegations," the filing said.

Giuliani political adviser Ted Goodman said in an email Wednesday that the filing was made "in order to move on to the portion of the case that will permit a motion to dismiss."

Michael Gottlieb, a lawyer for Freeman and Moss, said in an emailed statement that Giuliani is conceding "what we have always known to be true — Ruby Freeman and Shaye Moss honorably performed their civic duties in the 2020 presidential election in full compliance with the law; and the allegations of election



Former President Donald Trump visits Café du Monde in New Orleans, Tuesday, July 25, 2023.

Associated Press

fraud he and former-President Trump made against them have been false since day one."

Certain issues, including damages, still have to be decided by the court. Gottlieb said Freeman and Moss are "pleased with this major milestone in their fight for justice, and look forward to presenting what remains of this case at trial."

Freeman and Moss filed a motion this month alleging that Giuliani had "failed to take any steps to preserve relevant electronic evidence." They know such evidence exists because other people provided it to them, their filing says. They asked U.S. District Judge Beryl Howell in Washington to impose sanctions.

In the court filing, a lawyer for Giuliani argued that his client did not fail to preserve or destroy any electronic evidence "because all pertinent documents were seized by the government

and were in their possession, custody, or control." The federal government had executed search warrants at Giuliani's home and office in a separate case in New York and had seized his electronic devices.

The records that Moss and Freeman said were not produced "have not been in the possession of Giuliani since their seizure in April 2021," according to the court filing, and therefore it is "physically impossible" for him to have destroyed the evidence.

Moss had worked for the Fulton County elections department since 2012 and supervised the absentee ballot operation during the 2020 election. Freeman was a temporary election worker, verifying signatures on absentee ballots and preparing them to be counted and processed.

Giuliani and others alleged during a Georgia legislative subcommittee hear-

ing in December 2020 that surveillance video from State Farm Arena showed the election workers committing election fraud. As those allegations circulated online, the two women said, they suffered intense harassment, both in person and online. Moss detailed her experiences in emotional testimony before the members of Congress investigating the Capitol insurrection. The Jan. 6 committee also played video testimony from Freeman during the hearing in June 2022.

In a court filing that month, Giuliani asked the judge to toss the lawsuit, arguing the claims against him were barred by First Amendment protections for free speech. Howell rejected that request, allowing the lawsuit to proceed.

Justice Department special counsel Jack Smith and Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis, who are inves-

tigating efforts by Trump and his allies to overturn the 2020 election results, have both shown interest in what happened to Moss and Freeman.

Smith's team has subpoenaed Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger's office for any Election Day video from State Farm Arena. Willis sought testimony about a curious episode in which prosecutors say a woman traveled from Chicago to Georgia in January 2021 and tried to pressure Freeman into falsely confessing to committing election fraud.

The defamation lawsuit originally named right-wing cable news channel One America News Network, its owners and its chief White House correspondent for also pushing the debunked claims. They were dismissed from the suit in May 2022 after reaching an undisclosed settlement with Moss and Freeman. □



# Whistleblower tells Congress the U.S. is concealing 'multi-decade' program that captures UFOs

By NOMAAN MERCHANT

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. is concealing a long-standing program that retrieves and reverse engineers unidentified flying objects, a former Air Force intelligence officer testified Wednesday to Congress. The Pentagon has denied his claims.

Retired Maj. David Grusch's highly anticipated testimony before a House Oversight subcommittee was Congress' latest foray into the world of UAPs or "unidentified aerial phenomena," which is the official term the U.S. government uses instead of UFOs. While the study of mysterious aircraft or objects often evokes talk of aliens and "little green men," Democrats and Republicans in recent years have pushed for more research as a national security matter due to concerns that sightings observed by pilots may be tied to U.S. adversaries.

Grusch said he was asked in 2019 by the head of a government task force on UAPs to identify all highly



U.S. Air Force (Ret.) Maj. David Grusch, testifies before a House Oversight and Accountability subcommittee hearing on UFOs, Wednesday, July 26, 2023, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

classified programs relating to the task force's mission. At the time, Grusch was detailed to the National Reconnaissance Office, the agency that operates U.S. spy satellites.

"I was informed in the course of my official duties of a multi-decade UAP crash retrieval and reverse

engineering program to which I was denied access," he said. Asked whether the U.S. government had information about extraterrestrial life, Grusch said the U.S. likely has been aware of "non-human" activity since the 1930s. The Pentagon has denied Grusch's claims of a coverup. In a state-

ment, Defense Department spokeswoman Sue Gough said investigators have not discovered "any verifiable information to substantiate claims that any programs regarding the possession or reverse-engineering of extraterrestrial materials have existed in the past or exist currently." The statement

did not address UFOs that are not suspected of being extraterrestrial objects.

Grusch says he became a government whistleblower after his discovery and has faced retaliation for coming forward. He declined to be more specific about the retaliatory tactics, citing an ongoing investigation.

"It was very brutal and very unfortunate, some of the tactics they used to hurt me both professionally and personally," he said.

Rep. Glenn Grothman, R-Wis., chaired the panel's hearing and joked to a packed audience, "Welcome to the most exciting subcommittee in Congress this week." There was bipartisan interest in Grusch's claims and a more sober tone than other recent hearings featuring whistleblowers celebrated by Republicans and criticized by Democrats. Lawmakers in both parties asked Grusch about his study of UFOs and the consequences he faced and how they could find out more about the government's UAP programs. □

# Biden chooses former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley to lead the Social Security Administration

By FATIMA HUSSEIN

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Joe Biden on Wednesday nominated former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley to lead the Social Security Administration. If confirmed, O'Malley would run one of the biggest social programs in the nation and grapple with the surrounding uncertainty over its funding. Roughly 70 million people including retirees, disabled people and children receive Social Security benefits.

"Governor O'Malley is a lifelong public servant who has spent his career making government more accessible and transparent, while keeping the American people at the heart

of his work," Biden said in a statement. "As Governor, he made government work more effectively across

his administration and enhanced the way millions of people accessed critical services." O'Malley served



Former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley stands onstage following an inauguration ceremony for Baltimore Mayor Catherine Pugh inside the War Memorial Building in Baltimore, Dec. 6, 2016.

Associated Press

as Maryland's governor from 2007 to 2015 and was Baltimore mayor for two terms. He also ran as a Democratic presidential candidate in 2016 but has ruled out running in the future.

The annual Social Security and Medicare trustees report released in March says the program's trust fund will be unable to pay full benefits in about 10 years.

If the fund is depleted, the government will be able to pay only 80% of scheduled benefits, the report said.

There are few options available to keep the program healthy: raise taxes, raise eligibility age, cut costs or rely more on general revenues to cover the gap in funding, which could mean

higher budget deficits or potential cuts to other programs.

All of the options are politically controversial.

Currently, full Social Security benefits are available at 67, an age minimum that's increased by two years since the program was first created roughly 90 years ago. Everett Kelley, president of the American Federation of Government Employees workers union, applauded O'Malley's nomination, and said he "is a strong advocate for working people and labor rights, and he has the skills and experience necessary to tackle the various challenges facing SSA like the recruitment and retention of its dedicated workforce." □



# Pedestrians scatter as fire causes NY construction crane's arm to collapse

By **JAKE OFFENHARTZ and KAREN MATTHEWS**

**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A towering construction crane caught fire high above the West Side of Manhattan on Wednesday morning, causing its long arm to snap off, smash against a nearby building and plummet to the street as people ran for their lives on the sidewalk below.

Several people suffered minor injuries in the collapse, but no one died, New York City Mayor Eric Adams said. "As you can see from the debris on the street, this could have been much worse," the Democrat said at a news conference, noting that the street at that hour of the morning is often filled with pedestrians, cars and buses.

The crane was operating 45 stories up when its engine compartment caught fire at around 7:25 a.m., authorities said. Photos and videos on social media show flames bursting from the crane hundreds of feet above 10th Avenue at 41st Street. The crane's arm, which was carrying a 16-ton load of concrete, dangled before breaking off. "That weight of 16 tons is attached by a cable," said Joseph Pfeifer, first deputy



This rendering provided by Clark County, Nev., on June 2, 2023, shows one of five potential designs for a permanent memorial to be built on the Las Vegas Strip in honor of the victims, survivors and first responders of the Oct. 1, 2017, mass shooting that left 60 dead and hundreds more injured at a country music festival in Las Vegas.

commissioner for the Fire Department of New York. "As the fire heats the cable, the cable weakens to a point where it loses its strength, and that's where the collapse occurred." The person operating the crane tried to put out the fire as it spread but had to flee to safety, Pfeifer said. Nine civilians experienced minor injuries in the collapse or its aftermath, according to a fire department spokesperson. Two firefighters experienced heat exhaustion and chest pains.

A worker at a nearby construction site said everyone stopped and watched as flames engulfed the top of the crane and a column of black smoke rose above buildings. Within a few minutes, firefighters were shooting water down at the blaze from a balcony of an adjacent building. "I never seen anything like that," said Charles Pescatore, 18, a college helper on a construction site a few blocks away. "It could have killed a bunch of people." The cause of the fire is being investigated. Authori-

ties said they also planned to investigate the structural integrity of the residential tower, which is under construction and expected to rise to 54 stories. The crane is owned by the New York Crane & Equipment Corp., one of the city's most widely used crane providers, officials said. The Queens-based company has been involved in other crane problems in recent years, leading to criminal charges and new safety measures around New York City's crane operations. The company did not re-

spond to a request for comment.

In May of 2008, a collapse of the company's tower crane killed two workers on the Upper East Side of Manhattan.

The company and its owner, James Lomma, were acquitted of manslaughter and other charges; a mechanic pleaded guilty to criminally negligent homicide.

It was one of two deadly crane accidents in 2008, leading to the resignation of the city's buildings commissioner, as well as new safety measures around testing and oversight of crane operations.

Five years later, a crane owned by the company left a concrete cube dangling above a bustling pedestrian area for several hours, shutting down a major thoroughfare in Midtown Manhattan.

Delecia McInnis, a Long Island resident who saw the crane come down Wednesday, said she was surprised no one was seriously injured.

"There's so many things going on at 7 o'clock in the city, people are going to school, summer camp, there's always someone around in this area," she said. □



This rendering provided by Clark County, Nev., on June 2, 2023, shows one of five potential designs for a permanent memorial to be built on the Las Vegas Strip in honor of the victims, survivors and first responders of the Oct. 1, 2017, mass shooting that left 60 dead and hundreds more injured at a country music festival in Las Vegas.

By **RIO YAMAT**

**Associated Press**

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — Fifty-eight towering, candlelike beams will cast a blanket of warm light on visitors in

the design concept chosen Wednesday at an emotional meeting of a committee tasked with creating a permanent memorial at the site of the deadliest mass

## Design for Vegas Strip mass shooting memorial features 58 beams of light

shooting in modern U.S. history.

The number 58 represents the toll of people who were killed in the Las Vegas Strip massacre in October 2017, when a gunman opened fire from a high-rise suite at the Mandalay Bay hotel, targeting people at a country music festival below. Two people who initially survived died in subsequent years from causes that were attributed to the gunshot wounds they suffered.

The announcement marks a major step forward for the 1 October Memorial

Committee, which began the planning process more than three years ago. The panel is expected to submit a full recommendation including an alternate design to the Clark County Commission in September. "I will not lie that this has been a simple process, because it hasn't," committee member Mynda Smith said through tears. "But at the end of the day, I know this will become something of beauty and healing and love."

Smith's sister, Neysa Tonks, a 46-year-old mother of three from Las Vegas, was

killed in the shooting.

Another committee member, Karessa Royce, was among the more than 850 others who were injured in the attack. A junior at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, at the time of the shooting, she said her work on the committee helped guide her through the aftermath.

"When I woke up in the hospital in 2017 the day after the shooting, I never could've imagined the journey we'd be on together," Royce said, her voice cracking as she clutched a tissue in her hand. □



## Several ministers are out as Trudeau shakes up Canada's Cabinet

By ROB GILLIES  
Associated Press

**TORONTO (AP)** — Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced a major Cabinet shake-up on Wednesday as he readies his team for the next federal election.

Trudeau removed seven ministers and changed 23 portfolios. Defense, immigration, justice, public safety, health, and transport are among the departments with new ministers.

Several ministers are out after saying they wouldn't run in the next election, which must take place by October 2025, but it could be called well before then. Polls indicate Trudeau's Liberal Party is trailing the rival Conservatives.

"We expect to be able to govern for a couple of more years," Trudeau said. "No election is expected before fall, 2025 and we have a great deal of work to do."

Trudeau channeled the star power of his father, the



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau address the world law congress at the United Nations, Friday, July 21, 2023.

Liberal icon and late Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, when he first won in 2015, but scandals, voter fatigue and economic inflation have taken a toll after eight years in power.

Trudeau's legacy includes embracing immigration at

a time when the U.S. and other countries closed their doors. He also legalized cannabis nationwide, brought in a carbon tax to fight climate change and brought in affordable child care.

And he preserved a free

trade deal with the U.S. and Mexico amid threats by former U.S. President Donald Trump to scrap the agreement.

Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland will remain in both jobs. □

Associated Press

## Bank owners and citizens protest deterioration of the Iraqi dinar

By ALI JABAR and SALAR SALIM

**IRBIL, Iraq (AP)** — Dozens of people protested in front of the Central Bank of Iraq in Baghdad and bank owners called for official action to stem a sharp increase in the dollar exchange rate Wednesday, after the United States blacklisted 14 Iraqi banks.

Over the past two days, the market rate of the dollar jumped from 1,470 dinar per dollar to 1,570 dinar per dollar. The jump came after the U.S. listed 14 private Iraqi banks among banks that are banned from dealing with U.S. dollars due to suspicions of money laundering and funneling funds to Iran.

The ban was imposed by the U.S. Treasury Department and the Federal Re-

serve Bank of New York and was first reported by the Wall Street Journal on July 19.

"The listing of almost one third of the private banks as banned from dealing

with the U.S. dollar will have negative consequences from many perspectives," Haidar al Shamaa, owner of a private bank in Baghdad said at a news conference Wednesday.



Demonstrators protest in front of the Iraqi central bank as currency plummets against the U.S. dollar, in Baghdad, Iraq, Wednesday, July. 26, 2023.

Associated Press

He called on "the brothers at the Iraqi government to work ... to undo the damage which occurred to us specifically, and to the Iraqi banking section in general."

The 14 banks facing the ban issued a joint statement urging the Iraqi government to address the issue and warning that banning a third of Iraq's private banks from dollar trading would not only impact the dollar price but hinder foreign investment.

Protesters organized by a group calling itself Thuwar Tishreen (October Revolutionaries), which is connected to a movement that started mass protests in Iraq in 2021, also demanded that the government take action to halt inflation. □

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# A freighter carrying nearly 3,000 cars catches fire in the North Sea

By **MIKE CORDER**

**Associated Press**

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands**

**(AP)** — A fire on a freight ship carrying nearly 3,000 cars was burning out of control Wednesday in the North Sea, killing one crew member and injuring others, the Dutch coast guard said.

The agency said it was working to save the vessel from sinking close to an important habitat for migratory birds.

Boats and helicopters were used to get the 23 crew members off the ship after they tried unsuccessfully to put out the blaze, the coast guard said in a statement. The cause of the blaze wasn't immediately known, and it wasn't clear how the crew member died.

The Fremantle Highway was sailing from the German port of Bremerhaven to Singapore when it caught fire about 27 kilometers (17 miles) north of the Dutch island of Ameland.

As the blaze continued throughout the day, a salvage company sent an expert to assess the possibility of fastening a cable to the



**Smoke and flames are seen on a freight ship in the North Sea, about 27 kilometers (17 miles) north of the Dutch island of Ameland, Wednesday, July 26, 2023.**

ship that could be used to tow it, the coast guard said. Some of the crew members jumped off the ship's deck into the sea and were picked up by a lifeboat, the lifeboat's captain told Dutch broadcaster NOS. Some of the crew suffered broken bones, burns and breathing problems and were taken to hospitals in the northern Netherlands,

emergency services said. "Currently, there are a lot of vessels on scene to monitor the situation and to see how to get the fire under control," coast guard spokesperson Lea Versteeg said by phone. "But it's all depending on weather and the damage to the vessel. So we're currently working out to see how we can make sure that ... the

least bad situation is going to happen," Versteeg said. Asked if it was possible the ship would sink, she said, "It's a scenario we're taking into account and we're preparing for all scenarios." By early afternoon, two ships were alongside the freighter, hosing down its sides in an attempt to cool them, the coast guard said, but firefighters were

**Associated Press**

still unable to extinguish the flames and smoke was billowing out of the hold.

Images published in the afternoon by the coast guard showed gray smoke pouring out of the stricken ship. Its location is close to a chain of Dutch and German islands popular with tourists in the shallow Wadden Sea, a World Heritage-listed area described by UNESCO as "the largest unbroken system of intertidal sand and mud flats in the world" and "one of the most important areas for migratory birds in the world."

Versteeg said the vessel was carrying 2,857 cars, including 25 electric cars, making fighting the flames more difficult.

"It's not easy to keep that kind of fire under control and even in such a vessel it's not easy," Versteeg said.

The ship's Japanese owner, Shoen Kisen Kaisha Ltd, said it was working in cooperation with the local authorities of the Netherlands, a salvage company and a ship management company. □

## U.N. panel says it's concerned about human rights violations in Uganda

By **RODNEY MUHUMUZA**

**Associated Press**

**KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)** —

Human rights violations including extrajudicial killings in Uganda in recent years have raised the concern of a panel of United Nations experts.

The U.N. Human Rights Committee in findings released Wednesday also urged authorities in the East African country to repeal a recently enacted law that prescribes the death penalty for some homosexual acts.

The committee pointed to reports of arbitrary arrests and detention by police and security forces targeting political opponents, journalists, lawyers, human rights defenders, sex workers, and LGBTQ+ people.

The panel's report was its first review of Uganda since 2004. A government spokesman was not immediately available for comment on the committee's findings.

Uganda's security forces face growing allegations of brutality in their encounters with perceived opponents of the government of President Yoweri Museveni, a

U.S. ally who has held power since 1986.

Cases of extrajudicial killings "should be looked upon and perpetrators punished," the U.N. panel said, urging Uganda's security forces to "stick strictly to the principles of necessity and proportionality."

The opposition National Unity Platform party has led calls for Museveni and some members of his security personnel to face possible criminal charges at the International Criminal Court. While Museveni has condemned some security personnel for using excessive force when dealing with civilians, his critics say he should be held responsible for abuses committed under his watch.

A new law targeting ho-

mosexuals has put Uganda under an intense international spotlight. The law, which has wide support at home, has been criticized by rights activists and economic benefactors including the World Bank. The U.S. has warned of economic consequences over legislation described by Amnesty International as "draconian and overly broad."

"We don't understand this law," Jose Manuel Santos Pais, a member of the U.N. committee, said Wednesday. He added that his panel was "appalled" by the legislation.

Homosexuality is criminalized in more than 30 of Africa's 54 countries. Some Africans see it as behavior imported from abroad and not a sexual orientation. □



**Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni attends the state funeral of Kenya's former president Daniel Arap Moi in Nairobi, Kenya on Feb. 11, 2020.**

**Associated Press**





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## Visit the island's hidden natural pools

**(Oranjestad)—Amongst the countless beaches surrounding the island that are well-known and frequently visited, there are an additional two “hidden” natural pools that are situated in the northern coast of the island, two ideal stops in your tour itinerary.**

### Conchi (Natural Pool)

For many years, Conchi was the only natural pool that we had on the island. Located in the Arikok National Park, near Boca Keto and the Daimari Ranch, Conchi—also known “Cura di Turtuga (Turtle’s Cove) or just Natural Pool—is reachable with any 4x4 vehicle or by foot if you’re up for a long hike. However, since it is part of the National Park, you must first get permission from park management to enter. You would have to purchase a day pass, and receive a wristband as proof of payment. Once you’ve completed that, you are set!

If you decide to hike from the entrance of the Arikok National Park, this is also possible: do bring plenty of protective clothing and enough water and food—it could take you up to three hours to hike there!

However, when you eventually do get there, you will be greeted with crystal blue water surrounded by a natural rock formation that protects you from the wild waves on the other side. Though the pool is located on the northern side

of the island (where the sea is largely rough and largely no suitable for swimming), the pool itself is very calm. It’s also relatively deep, and you can climb up the rocks and jump in!

### Cave Pool

This relatively new pool appeared just a few years ago, when a part of the dried up coral floor broke off and created a partition between the ocean and what is now the natural pool that is hidden there. Because it’s still so new, there is no official name for it, but most people just call it the cave pool.

Just like the Conchi, the new natural pool is situated on the northern coast of Aruba. However, this pool is much easier to reach with any type of vehicle, and there is no hiking needed. This spot has also become a regular stop for touring visitors. When you get there, maybe you won’t be able to spot the pool immediately, because you will probably notice the moon-shaped lagoon where wild northern waves crash into each other. Sounds scary, but if you look down on your right, you’ll see a calm, crystal blue little pool in the corner. To get there, you have to climb down some stairs. Be careful when climbing down and follow the instructions of your tour guide if you have one. And just like Conchi, this pool also has a jumping spot, and a rope to climb back up the boulder. □

## Playa Linda Beach Resort celebrates 40th anniversary

**This year, Playa Linda Beach Resort is celebrating its 40th anniversary. During the past 40 years, Playa Linda has been known for their beautiful resort and amenities, and their excellent, dedicated and friendly staff.**

Playa Linda was built on a prime beachside spot, replacing the island’s very first hotel on Palm Beach, the Basi-Ruti. Since its opening, Playa Linda has led the way in defining island comfort and ambiance as well as demonstrating a dedication to sustainable development.

Aruba Today wishes to congratulate Playa Linda for this amazing milestone, and



wishes many more years filled with great success. Congratulations!

For more information, visit <https://www.playalinda.com/about> □







## Looking for something new? Get a fusion of Trinidad & Tobago and the essence of Aruba at Kamini's Kitchen



**A native from Trinidad, Kamini Kurvink learned to cook at only 10 years of age. She was cooking for her parents and her eight siblings. This love for baking and cooking gave her all the experience and knowledge she has today to invent and re-invent her homeland dishes, making this more personalized.**

At the age of 26, Kamini relocated to Aruba where she started working at a fast food chain. Starting out as a regular employee, Kamini's hard work and love for her craft got her all the way up to the position of manager.

After leaving her job at the fast food chain, she opened a breakfast and lunch snackette that was open 6 days every week for about 10 months. Eventually, Kamini got to the current location and this is how today we have one of the restaurants that bring our visitors true Aruban cuisine, Kamini's Kitchen.

Once you're on the island, dare to try something different. The best part about it is that you have to look no further than at Kamini's Kitchen. One of the most special aspects of Kamini's Kitchen is the combination of Kamini's Trinidadian roots and the local flavor you must try as a visitor to the island. By doing this, you can enjoy her traditions through the food you're being served. This restaurant gives



you a wide variety of dishes to choose from that are bound to make a lasting impression on you and you'll be sure to return for more. So much so, that in order to motivate you to try something new, they will offer you a sample of their signature dish to get you started.

All the food made at Kamini's Kitchen is freshly made and to order. You get the best quality of food along with an open concept that creates a wonderful ambiance that is loved by all who visit. The natural air that can be felt in every corner of the restaurant makes it a fresh and accommodating place to be in, especially because it calms many who may still carry post-pandemic worries.

The main dish Kamini's Kitchen recommends is the Roti with Curry. Curry is usually Indian and often comes in a prepackaged way. However Kamini's Kitchen takes pride in their curry made in-house, which is usually not spicy unless you want it to be. And the best part? In the case that you do want it spicy, Kamini's has their own homemade hot sauce and one drop is more than enough!

Another dish that Kamini's Kitchen highly recommends is the Whole Red Snapper in curry or

'Crioyo' sauce with aros moro. This is one of Kamini's best sellers with their fishes being from open water.

At Kamini's Kitchen every customer is just as important; therefore the menu is dietary restrictions friendly. They will cater to your needs as long as it's within their reach and are willing to adjust their menu to your desires, so much so that vegetarians may even order off menu.

The newest member of the family is the Doubles. This is a snack platter that has tortillas with layers of Jhana paste and tamarind chutney. This makes for a perfect snack to prepare the stomach before heading to the beach, given Kamini's Kitchen's perfect location. And once you're heading back home after the beach, head back to Kamini's for a wonderful dinner sure to exceed your expectations.

At Kamini's Kitchen, you will be mesmerized by our cuisine. ☐





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## Episode 29

# Oranjestad just celebrated its 195 in total oblivion

Just over seventeen hundred people lived on Aruba in 1816. Trade with the Gulf of Maracaibo was a transit-trade; shipments were received from Curacao merchants and return-cargoes consisting of dye-wood and goatskins were sent there. Eight merchants and eight shopkeepers reside on our island, as well as 78 sailors. Fishing was only carried on in "canoes". Of the 319 persons whose calling was known 194 were planters. There must have been a moderate prosperity, since two goldsmiths found occupation here.

An inventory of fort Zoutman makes it very clear that government-property was in a sadly neglected condition, "two benches, two tables, two iron pots, four halivats (an Aruban measure, half vat about 8 gallons), two water-casks, a soldiers' quarters, 17 workable and defective muskets, and 20 cartridge-pouches. With regards to private houses nothing was reported. The garden of "bakkoval" and Fontein according to old usage served as "special allowance" for the commander.

All the soil belonged to the

government, but Aruba was not classed as a government plantation like Bonaire. However, those cultivating the little gardens or cunucus did not pay leases. Rates were not levied, but every inhabitant was obliged to work two days a week for the government, a kind of statute labor. It was possible, however, to have oneself replaced by a slave. Tree native could together send one permanent slave.

When more people got an opportunity to settle here the feudal laws maintained by the Dutch West India Company until 1791, which had been left intact by the government afterwards, could no longer be kept up. In 1823 the whole of Aruba was still regarded as crown-land. In that year the residents were permitted to obtain the ownership of the land they had received as concessionaries by purchase. The gold-finds of 1824 as well made further provisions necessary. They came in 1829: the colonial administration maintained its rights to the gold, but would give compensation. Under Governor Reinier F. Baron Van Raders the last traces of feudal law on



Aruba were obliterated in 1841, and replaced by proprietary rights, a measure receiving renewed official sanction in 1924. Owing to the conditions prevailing under the Company's sway and their development until the time of Van Raders, the growth of large holdings was impossible on our island. In this Aruba differs from the other islands, a difference emphasized by its social consequences. A man who has a holding of his own also wants his own house.

During the first fifteen years after Aruba had been handed over to the Dutch again about a thousand new residents settled on the island. Most newcomers were traders establishing themselves "on the Bay". In the Commander's Journal of 1st October 1822 we read:

"Since from time to time requests have been handed to us for permission to construct houses on Horses' Bay in the island of Aruba, it does not seem improbable that after some years a regular village will occupy the above site. And because it is necessary for

some order and system to be introduced in placing these houses, so that they shall not be built at random in a disorderly and scattered manner, but shall on the contrary be constructed in rows so as to facilitate the making of streets and roads, in which manner a proper village may be founded, we have deemed fit to make known our above observations to the commander of the island of Aruba by copy of this letter, enjoining him to see to it that our intention is complied with and to take due care that the sites for the building of the houses will be selected after proper deliberation and assigned to those who shall have obtained our permission". In 1822, therefore, it is already foreseen that "on the Bay", as the nameless spot was still styled, a regular village will arise. People were coming to live there, and apparently built their houses anyhow all round the water. On 16th February 1927 Commander Simon Plats writes to Governor Paulus R. Cantz'laar that the extension of the village and the difficulty resulting from this for the ward-ad district-masters to fulfil their

duties had given rise to a division of the little place into two sections by means of a street running almost due north and south.

Plats next informs Cantz'laar: "In consequence of this division I have, on the strength of art.525 regarding the commander of Aruba, appointed as warden of the east section of De Oranjestad, Corn. Raven, inhabitant of same, and as warden of the west section Pieter Wuurman (name hardly legible), also residing in the part of the town coming under his supervision". So in February of 1827 the "village" on Horse's Bay bore the name.

Now during one of many visits to Aruba, of Governor Cantz'laar, when this dignitary proposed a toast to "the prosperity of the Horses Bay" Those at the table observed that the village that came in to being had no name. Cantz'laar had the idea to honor our King Willem I, however this would not do, for there was already a Willemstad, on Curaçao. Then Jacob Thiel-en I stood up and proposed Oranjestad (Orange city) as a solution. The name Oranjestad came to be on a Tuesday, the third of August 1824. Hardly the name had been heard by those preset when they all broke out into cheers and cries of, "Long live the Oranjestad! May it grow and thrive." □







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## Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure to recognize Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. This lovely couple was respectively honored with a certificate acknowledging their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were: Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba Mr. Marvin & Mrs. Laisbeth Espinoza from North Carolina, United States

The honor certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three honoring levels are as follows:  
Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)  
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

Ms. Kimberley Richardson representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa bestowed the certificate to the honorees, presented them with memorable gifts, and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their best-loved vacation destination, and as their home-away-from-home.

Top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by Mr. & Mrs. Espinoza were:



"Aruba is a family-friendly island"  
Aruba's safety  
Aruba's nice sandy beaches  
Aruba's warm consistent

weather all year round  
"This resort"  
On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere

gratitude and appreciation to Mr. & Mrs. Espinoza for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". ☐

## Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Divi Phoenix

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure to recognize a Goodwill Ambassador of

Aruba. This Goodwill Ambassador was respectively honored with a certificate acknowledging

her years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honor certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

Aruba bestowed the Goodwill Ambassador certificate to the honoree, presented her with gifts, and also thanked her for choosing Aruba as her favorite vacation destination, and as her home away from home.



The three honoring levels are as follows:  
Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)  
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)  
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

Top reasons for returning to Aruba, provided by the honoree were:  
Aruba's year-round sunny weather  
Aruba's hospitable people  
Aruba's nice sandy beaches  
Aruba's sunsets  
"Aruba's variety of things to do – they are all great!"

The honoree was: Goodwill Ambassador June Marie Foster from New Jersey, United States.

Ms. Kimberley Richardson representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of the Divi Phoenix

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Mrs. Foster for her continued visits to the "One Happy Island". ☐



## Today Is Going To Be A Good Day

Here's why: Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.

### Nature Calls

The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center. For more information, visit the website [www.arubana-tionalpark.org](http://www.arubana-tionalpark.org)



[tionalpark.org](http://www.arubana-tionalpark.org)

### Philip's Animal Garden

To stay with the animals, let's hop to an amazing place. Something different to do, an experience that is to be enjoyed by people of all ages. Welcome to Philip's Animal Garden. We are not talking about a zoo here, this is actually a sanctuary for all types of creatures, from horses to peacocks, kangaroos to turtles, monkeys, goats, and many, many more different species. The place was founded in 2009 and it is the only organization rescuing and rehabilitating exotic animals in Aruba, which has resulted in an amazing collection of these animals. They provide a suitable living environment for all the rescued animals. Up until now the

owner, Philip, has built this shelter with his own efforts; building all the cages from scratch, designing all structures and welding them with his own bare hands. His goal is to upgrade the facilities to a world-class animal shelter with veterinary care and round-the-clock staffs. With the input from the Aruban community and visitors they provide the best care for these animals. Please check out their website for more information: [www.philipsanimalgarden.com](http://www.philipsanimalgarden.com).

### The Lighthouse

No, you would not think of this as a hidden gem. The California Lighthouse is actually one of the most known highlights in Aruba and many repeated guests most probably took the ride uphill already. But, there is a significant change to this tower. Since September 2016 you can climb the top. In 2015 Stichting Monumentenfonds started the restoration of the California Lighthouse. The project finished in September 2016 and the Lighthouse is now open for visitors to enjoy the beautiful view from the top. The construction of the California Lighthouse started in 1915. The name 'California' came from a vessel of the West India Company



## Immigration Aruba: Warning regarding fake website for Aruba's online ED card



Through a post on their official Facebook page, the government of Aruba through Immigration Aruba (IA) wishes to alert and protect against a fake website which is currently online. Please be aware of this in order to avoid possible scams or identity theft.

Apparently this fake website is charging for Aruba's online ED card. This website does not belong, and is not related to, the online ED card of Immigration Aruba.

The fake website is <https://www.embarkation-aruba.com/> and is one of the first results when doing a Google Search for "Online ED Card Aruba", so please be very careful!

Immigration Aruba wishes to remind everyone that the Online ED Card from Aruba is completely free of charge and thus you should not have to make any payments! The correct website for this is <https://edcardaruba.aw/> □

and Pacific Steamship Co. called 'California' that shipwrecked in the area in 1891. Therefore they came up with the idea of building a lighthouse that could indicate the island's eastern tip to ships with its light. [www.arubalighthouse.com](http://www.arubalighthouse.com) will give you more information.

### Kayak in the Mangroves

Mangel Halto at Savaneta is definitely a place not to miss out on. The beautiful beach with the natural mangroves is simply a

beauty, but if you are into a more active way to enjoy the nature: take a kayak. While you are doing some workout -as it might get a little windy and rough-, you will see the island from a different perspective. You can even make a stop to do some snorkeling at the reef. It's fun, it's healthy and for sure something else. There are several companies that offer kayak tours, we had good experience with The Shack Kayak Tours Aruba, find them on Facebook. □





# CROSSWORD

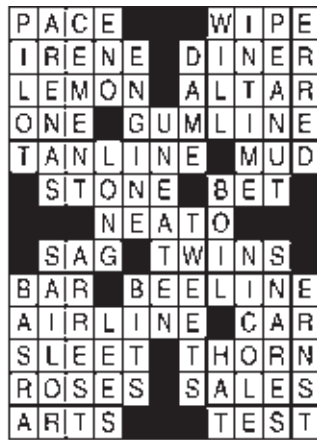
By THOMAS JOSEPH

## ACROSS

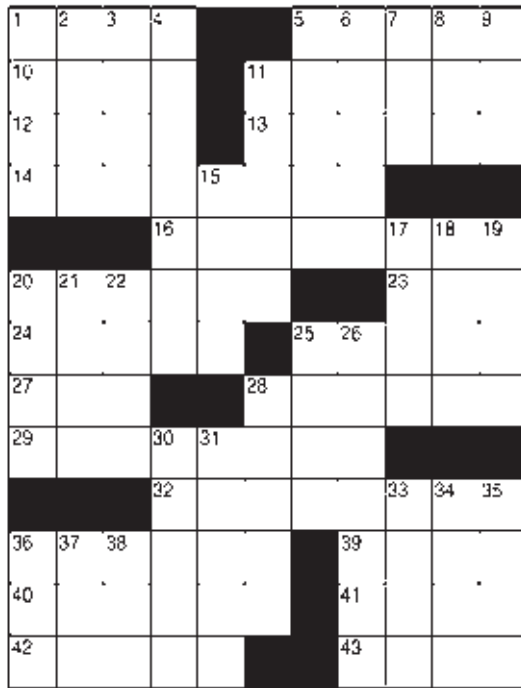
- 1 Alveoli setting
- 5 Psycho-analysis pioneer
- 10 Seoul setting
- 11 Rugged range
- 12 Hat material
- 13 Jewelry buy
- 14 Philosophy topic
- 16 Don Quixote target
- 20 So far
- 23 Stage prompt
- 24 Approves
- 25 Boat's back
- 27 Bruin Bobby
- 28 Rich
- 29 Dumping site
- 32 Animal on the shoulder
- 36 Show up
- 39 Sky shade
- 40 Defeats decisively
- 41 Cruise stop
- 42 Sycophant
- 43 Guys' dates

## DOWN

- 1 Guffaw, informally
- 2 Manual reader
- 3 Cairo's river
- 4 Entrance
- 5 Game site
- 6 Empire
- 7 Go astray
- 8 Online address
- 9 German article
- 11 Book part
- 15 Funny folks
- 17 Like cupcakes
- 18 Entice
- 19 Give for a bit
- 20 Square or plane
- 21 Gumbo base
- 22 "Nuts!"
- 25 Auction cry
- 26 Boast
- 28 Tale tellers
- 30 Intense fear
- 31 Like hair mousse
- 33 "Casa-blanca" role
- 34 Tempo-rary
- 35 Directors Spike and Ang
- 36 Play a part
- 37 Favoring
- 38 Stew sphere



Yesterday's answer



7-27

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three U's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

7-27

## CRYPTOQUOTE

V P V N H E O C F D C I S V N V J W F H

C F E O V U C G Y D Z N Y V F

W Q S O C G Y O W W Y . — R Z A G W

F V N X Y Z

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: REMEMBER UPON THE CONDUCT OF EACH DEPENDS THE FATE OF ALL. — ALEXANDER THE GREAT

# How a credit card strategy helped me save over \$1,100 on a home remodel

By CRAIG JOSEPH  
of NerdWallet

The morning after the hurricane hit Florida, I got a text from my tenant.

"I have completely moved out," he wrote after the storm last fall, wishing me an abrupt "good luck" despite having been there over three years, with eight months left on his lease. The wind had just subsided, windows were still boarded up and my nerves were frazzled.

The building was unscathed from the hurricane, but a different storm had ravaged the apartment. Once inside, I found pet damage to the doors and walls, busted tile in the bathroom and broken kitchen cabinets a list of repairs that would exceed the security deposit.

My contractor quoted me around \$9,500 to repair and update the whole apartment, and I was fortunate to have the necessary cash on hand. But he also noted the job could take months to complete, which gave me time to shop for deals on materials and figure out how to put some cash back in my pocket.

Here's how I stacked a new credit card with a high-yield savings account to save over \$1,100 on the remodel.

## A TRIPLE-THREAT CREDIT CARD

The first step was finding a credit card that offered three things: a 0% introductory interest rate, cash back on purchases and a sign-up bonus. The 0% rate would let me pay off the expense over time, while



This Aug. 11, 2019 file photo shows Visa credit cards in New Orleans.

Associated Press

the cash back and bonus would defray the cost.

That can be a powerful combination when an unexpected expense arises, according to Michael Berkahn, a certified financial planner with Graham Capital in Tampa, Florida.

"Using an interest free credit card provides the consumer the flexibility to not have to use their savings up front," he said in an email.

To get the best credit card offers, you'll need at least good credit (credit scores of 690 or higher). My credit qualified me for a cash-back card with an 18-month 0% APR period and a \$200 bonus. Home improvement stores were an eligible bonus category, and since the card was from the bank that holds my retirement accounts, I also qualified for a boost to its reward rates.

The project wrapped up for a total price of \$10,100, including materials and labor. Those expenses

earned me a total of \$464 between the card's bonus and ongoing cash back.

## A HIGH-YIELD SAVINGS ACCOUNT

This next step only works if you already have the cash you need to cover your expense.

According to the St. Louis Federal Reserve, the national average interest rate on savings accounts has increased by 600% since May 2022 (1), making them a more attractive place to store cash.

I found an online bank that offered a 4.8% annual percentage yield. And instead of immediately paying off the credit card I'd charged for the remodel, I deposited the \$10,100 into that savings account.

By simply making the card's minimum monthly payment of \$96 over the 18-month 0% APR period and then paying off the remainder once that period is over I will earn an estimated \$693 in interest from that savings account. □

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# Issa Rae offers aspiring female directors a chance to shine

By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.  
AP Entertainment Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — From Issa Rae's perspective, there's plenty of talented female filmmakers willing to work. However, she knows most haven't been afforded the same support as their male counterparts.

Now, Rae feels compelled to create a supportive platform for aspiring women directors through the reboot series "Project Greenlight: A New Generation," which premiered this month on Max. She brought back the Ben Affleck and Matt Damon series that debuted in 2001 on HBO about unproven filmmakers directing a feature-length movie. It was canceled 14 years later after a controversial fourth season, which included a heated discussion between Damon and producer Effie Brown over diversity.

This time, Rae puts a spotlight on the next generation of women who are tasked to direct a full-length film too.

"The series shows that there are a lot of women out there who are interested. With proper resources and given a chance, they can absolutely deliver," Rae said in interview before the actor's strike. She is a mentor in the series alongside actor Kumail Nanjiani and



This image released by Max shows Issa Rae, left, Kumail Nanjiani, center, and Gina Prince-Bythewood in a scene from the series "Project Greenlight: A New Generation."

Associated Press

"The Woman King" director Gina Prince-Bythewood. Rae witnessed Greta Gerwig direct the big budget "Barbie" film, which had 2023's biggest opening. Gerwig shattered the first weekend records for a film directed by a woman. The "Insecure" creator appeared as President Barbie in the movie starring Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling.

"I saw it even while promoting 'Barbie,'" Rae said. "I'm working with a director who's one of six to get

a \$100-million budget. Six women. It's an industry-wide issue where there are limitations for the opportunities that women get. I think this series shines a light on a very small area that needs improvement."

Rae said the idea to revive the series was originally presented to her by Montreal McKay, who is featured in show and serves as the president of development & production at her Hoorae Media production company. After the company approached Max with the

idea to highlight first-time female directors, she said the streaming service was "enthusiastic" in what she calls the easiest greenlight from them.

Rae and company filtered through 10 finalists before selecting Meko Winbush, a writer-director who mostly had experience making trailers and short films. The 10-episode series pulls back the curtain on the entire filmmaking process that shows the challenges each team faces while guiding Winbush who is a Black

woman into making a successful film project.

Prince-Bythewood said it was important for the series to specifically highlight female directors, who weren't hardly featured if at all in the original series.

"I used to love the show. I used to watch every season. And there was such a normalcy to the winners always being 'white men.' I don't even remember a person of color even being in the running. I don't remember a woman," she said. "I didn't even question it back then, which is crazy. Being a part of it now, this reboot is way more reflective of what the industry is and needs to be."

Throughout the process, Winbush was under constant pressure and struggled at times to execute her vision. She had less than 20 days to direct the science fiction thriller called "Gray Matter."

The cameras rolled from pre-production along with casting through principal photography and post-production.

"Women aren't given a chance to direct genre movies," said Rae, who initially had some reservations about selecting Winbush. "In hindsight, it's ambitious to try to make a genre movie in 18 days with a very limited budget. □

## Drew Barrymore will host the National Book Awards

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Drew Barrymore, whose honors include a Golden Globe and Screen Actors Guild award, will be presiding over a more literary ceremony this fall.

Barrymore will be hosting the 74th annual National Book Awards, the National Book Foundation announced Tuesday. And Oprah Winfrey, a previous winner of an honorary National Book Award, will be a guest speaker.

Barrymore and Winfrey

both have long histories of championing books and reading. Winfrey's book club picks have helped dozens of works become bestsellers, while Barrymore has praised books by Tina Fey and David Sedaris, among others.

"Throughout their careers, Drew Barrymore and Oprah Winfrey have each demonstrated their enduring belief that books have the power to change readers' lives by opening doors, sparking conversations, and build-

ing community," David Steinberger, chair of the Board of Directors of the National Book Foundation, said in a statement. "This belief echoes the mission of the National Book Foundation to ensure that books have a prominent place in our culture."

The awards ceremony is scheduled for Nov. 15, in Manhattan, with competitive prizes to be handed out in fiction, nonfiction, poetry, literature in translation and young people's



Drew Barrymore appears at the 24th Annual Mark Twain Prize for American Humor at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on March 19, 2023, in Washington.

Associated Press

literature. Barrymore is not the first celebrity host of the National Book Awards, the unofficial "Oscars" of

the publishing world. Steve Martin hosted a handful of times in the late 1990s and early 2000s. □



## Abrams' single caps 4-run 9th inning as Nats rally for 5-4 win over Rockies

**HARVEY VALENTINE**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — CJ Abrams' two-run single capped a four-run ninth inning and the Washington Nationals rallied to beat the Colorado Rockies 5-4 on Wednesday for a second straight day.

A day after using a four-run eighth to come back from a 5-2 deficit to beat the Rockies 6-5, Lane Thomas and Jeimer Candelario opened the ninth with walks against Daniel Bard (4-2) in the finale of the three-game series. Joey Meneses, whose three-run homer was the difference in Tuesday night's win, singled to load the bases.

Keibert Ruiz was out on an infield fly, but Bard hit Dominic Smith with a pitch to walk in a run and make it 4-2. Stone Garrett was out on a slow roller before Candelario scored Washington's third run. Luis Garcia was intentionally walked and Ildemaro Vargas drew a four-pitch walk to tie the game. Matt Koch



Washington Nationals' CJ Abrams (5) celebrates with Dominic Smith, center right, after Abrams hit a walk-off single to score Smith for the winning run in the ninth inning of a baseball game against the Colorado Rockies, Wednesday, July 26, 2023, in Washington.

**Associated Press**

came on to face Abrams, who grounded a single between first and second to score pinch runner Michael Chavis for the winning run. "I was just looking for anything in the zone," Abrams said. "Saw one in the zone,

swung at it. I hit the cutter. The cutter kind of got in on me and I got a lucky bounce." Bard, who had allowed only two runs over his past eight appearances, said he felt fine physically but

was struggling with his delivery.

"I've gotten out of bases-loaded, no-out jams before," Bard said. "I just felt like that was going to be another one, especially with the three-run cushion.

Just make a couple of pitches and you're out of this thing. I firmly believed I was going to get out of it until I didn't."

Washington completed a 5-1 homestand after going 15-22 at Nationals Park before the All-Star break.

"We had a great homestand after struggling here," manager Dave Martinez said. "The way we came back the last two days was awesome. I can't tell you enough about the character of these guys. They don't give in, they don't give up. They play hard for 27 outs."

Andres Machado (1-0) pitched one inning for the win. Ryan McMahon, Elehuris Montero and Michael Toglia homered for Colorado, which finished 3-3 on its road trip.

Rockies starter Peter Lambert allowed an unearned run on three hits, all singles. In two starts since being recalled from Triple-A Albuquerque on July 21, Lambert is 1-0 and has allowed one run in 11 innings. □

## Rob Manfred's term as baseball commissioner extended until 2029

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred's term was extended until 2029 on Wednesday by major league owners. The decision to give Manfred a third term in charge of the sport was made during a vote in a telephone conference call with the 30 team owners. The extension keeps Manfred in place until Jan. 25, 2029.

Manfred, 64, succeeded Bud Selig in January 2015 and was given a five-year term. Owners voted in November 2018 to offer Manfred a new deal through the 2024 season.

Manfred has overseen a period of on-field change for the sport, including instituting a pitch clock and limits on defensive shifts this season. Game times have dropped by about a half-hour and offense by left-handed batters has in-



Major League Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred makes comments before the unveiling of the 2024 All-Star game logo, Thursday, July 20, 2023, in Arlington, Texas.

**Associated Press**

creased. He presided over the deal with players that led to pandemic-shortened 60-game schedule in 2020, the institution of automatic runners at second base in extra-inning games that began that year and a 99-day lockout last year that ended with a five-year

labor contract that runs through the 2026 season. The collective bargaining agreement also expanded use of the designated hitter to the National League. "It is an honor to serve the best game in the world and to continue the pursuit of strengthening our sport on and off the field," Manfred

said in a statement. "This season our players are displaying the most vibrant version of our game, and sports fans are responding in a manner that is great for Major League Baseball's future. Together, all of us in the game will work toward presenting our sport at its finest and broadening its reach and impact for our loyal fans."

Manfred has been criticized by some for granting players immunity in the Houston Astros' cheating scandal the team and management were penalized and for allowing the Oakland Athletics to pursue a move to Las Vegas. His relationship with players has frequently been icy, and he said after last year's lockout that he wanted to do better in that regard.

"At a critical moment in the history of our game,

Commissioner Manfred has listened to our fans and worked closely with our players to improve America's pastime," Seattle Mariners chairman John Stanton said in a statement. "Under his leadership, we have been responsive to the fans' desire for more action and better pace, continued the game's spirit of innovation, expanded MLB's role in youth baseball and softball, and beyond. The significant momentum that MLB has built reflects his ongoing initiatives that are advancing the game." A graduate of the Cornell School of Industrial and Labor Relations and Harvard Law School, Manfred became involved in baseball in 1987, when he was an associate at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius and the firm was retained as MLB labor counsel. □



# Mollie O'Callaghan sets a world record at the swimming worlds

By **STEPHEN WADE**

AP Sports Writer

FUKUOKA, Japan (AP) —

Australian swimmer Mollie O'Callaghan picked up a knee injury about five weeks ago, described as anything from a dislocation to a simple tweak. She said it slowed her some in practice, and modified her training schedule.

But heck, what's a little injury matter. The 19-year-old O'Callaghan broke the world record on Wednesday in the 200-meter freestyle at the world championships, clocking 1 minute, 52.85 seconds to erase Federica Pellegrini's mark of 1:52.98 the oldest women's record set in 2009 in the fast-suit era.

"I'm just really shocked,"



Mollie O'Callaghan of Australia reacts after winning the women's 200m freestyle swimming final at the World Swimming Championships in Fukuoka, Japan, Wednesday, July 26, 2023.

Associated Press

O'Callaghan said. "I was just expecting to have fun tonight and whatever I did I was going to be really happy. To come away with a world record is just amazing." She also picked up a check for \$30,000, which goes to any record setter at this year's worlds. O'Callaghan overtook Australian teammate Ariarne Titmus she set a world record in the 400 free on Sunday in the final 20 meters. Titmus finished in 1:53.01 and 16-year-old Summer McIntosh of Canada took bronze in 1:53.65. Here's what O'Callaghan said she told herself over the last 50.

"Right now I just need to go. I don't care how hard it is or if it hurts. I'm just going to push and if I come last and completely die, then that's all right. At least I gave it a crack," she said. It took O'Callaghan a few minutes after the race to compose herself and digest the moment.

"I was a wreck afterwards," she said. "I couldn't really explain it those tears of happiness, very mixed emotions. I'm just so proud of myself to do that. It was just such an unexpected moment."

Titmus did not hold back. "To be completely honest, I wanted to win that," the 22-year-old Titmus said. "I thought I had a great swim in me and that was a great swim. If not winning, it's great to have someone from Australia on top of the podium." It was a personal-best time, but not fast enough. Leon Marchand, a 21-year-old Frenchman who figures to be the face of next year's Paris Olympics, added the men's 200 butterfly gold to the one he won in the 400 IM on the opening day when he broke Michael Phelps' last individual world mark. Marchand took the lead at 80 meters and powered home in 1:52.43. Krzysztof Chmielewski of Poland took silver in 1:53.62 and Tomoru Honda gave host Japan its second bronze medal of the worlds in 1:53.66. □



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